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Appln No. 10/633,944  
Reply to Office Action of 01/11/07

REMARKS

Disclosure Informalities

In response to the informality objections, claim 5 has been corrected to end with a period.

35 U.S.C. § 102(a/e)

Claim 5 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a/e) as being anticipated by Byerley (US 6,457,505). This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons. Claim 5 has been amended to clarify that each bead lock is mounted on a axially movable housing connected to the central screw and axially movable upon rotation of the central screw. Byerly teaches bead lock shoes are not axially movable by rotation of the central screw, and instead, relies on bead lock piston and camming action of center support segments for movement. As Byerley fails to anticipate the invention as recited in claim 5, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

In light of this amendment, all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application are allowable. Thus, the Examiner is respectfully requested to allow all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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